



Aviation in Illinois

The State of Illinois plays a critical role in the National Airspace System. Aviation serves as a global gateway, connecting Illinoisans to the world. The aviation industry is a major contributor to the Illinois economy. Last year alone, over 87.4 million commercial passengers flew to, or through, Illinois airports.

According to a 2015 Federal Aviation Administration study¹, the total annual economic output from the Illinois aviation industry is a staggering \$50.9 billion. Furthermore, the aviation industry in Illinois is responsible for over 366,000 jobs. The study also found that aviation accounts for more than 4.2 percent of Illinois's GDP and nearly 5 percent of the state's jobs.

Did you know...

- There are 827 aviation landing facilities in Illinois
- 110 are public use aviation landing facilities
- 12 airports with regular scheduled commercial service
- 6,157 registered aircraft in Illinois
- 15,143 licensed pilots statewide
- 337,000 aviation supported jobs
- Airports in Illinois have \$15 billion combined payroll
- The economic impact of aviation in Illinois is nearly \$51 billion annually
- In 2014, Chicago O'Hare International Airport ranked 3rd in the nation in passenger boardings
- Chicago O'Hare International Airport ranked 4th in the nation with more than 3.7 million tons of freight landing at the airport in 2014
- 35 grants were given to Illinois airports in fiscal year 2015 – totaling more than \$87 million
- Illinois has over 7.5 million square yards of runway pavement and over 4.7 million square yards of taxiway pavement – the equivalent of a 2-lane roadway twice the length of the state of Illinois.

¹ The Economic Impact of Civil Aviation on the U.S. Economy (2015)
https://www.faa.gov/air_traffic/publications/media/2015-economic-impact-report.pdf

